

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A high energy wave absorber of an ultraviolet ray or an electron beam, the absorber comprising a water-soluble keratin derivative (MFP), obtained by [[the]] a processing of poultry feathers by the following steps:

(1) ~~an alkali desulfurization and water solubilization reaction step; and~~

(2) ~~a step of separating the water soluble main component,~~

~~or obtained by the above (1) and (2) and;~~

(3) ~~a high energy wave irradiation step~~ treating the poultry feathers with an alkali both to break disulfide bonds and solubilize the feathers in water; and

(2) separating the water-soluble main component to obtain the water-soluble derivative (MFP), the MFP having an emission at 430 nm (maximum) upon irradiation with an electron beam and a molecular weight of 5 to 50 KDa.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): ~~The water-soluble keratin derivative according to Claim 1, wherein the molecular weight is from~~ A high energy wave absorber of an ultraviolet ray or an electron beam, the absorber comprising a water-soluble keratin derivative (UVP), obtained by a processing of poultry feathers by the following steps:

(1) treating the poultry feathers with an alkali to break disulfide bonds;

(2) separating the water-soluble main component to obtain a water-soluble keratin derivative; and

(3) irradiating the water-soluble main component with a high energy wave to obtain the water-soluble keratin derivative (UVP), the UVP having an emission at 370 nm (maximum) and 680 nm (medium) upon irradiation with UV-C and a molecular weight of 5 to 50 kDa.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The ~~water-soluble keratin-derivative~~ high energy wave absorber according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein an alkali with a concentration of at least 1.1% is used in an amount of at least 2 wt% with respect to the feather weight.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The ~~water-soluble keratin-derivative~~ high energy wave absorber according to Claim ~~[[1]],~~ 2, ~~[[or 3,]]~~ wherein UV-C is used as the ~~primary source~~ irradiating ~~[[of]]~~ high energy ~~waves~~ wave.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The high energy wave absorber ~~containing the water-soluble keratin-derivative~~ according to ~~any of Claims~~ Claim 1 to 4 or 2, wherein the high energy wave to be absorbed is an ultraviolet ray.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A fluorescent material containing the water-soluble keratin derivative ~~according to any of Claims~~ defined in Claim 1 ~~[[to 4]]~~ or 2.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A material weatherproofness improver containing the water-soluble keratin derivative ~~according to any of Claims~~ defined in Claim 1 ~~[[to 4]]~~ or 2.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A water repellant containing the water-soluble keratin derivative ~~according to~~ defined in Claim 1 ~~[[,]]~~ or 2, ~~or 3.~~

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The high energy wave absorber according to Claim 5, wherein the high energy ~~waves are ultraviolet rays or~~ wave to be absorbed is an electron beam.